

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claim 1 is amended for reasons other than patentability over the applied references.

I. Status of the Application

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-21, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Rhee (U.S. Publication 2003/0099221).

Claims 5, 10, 18, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhee in view of Madruga et al. (U.S. Patent 6,917,985; hereinafter “Madruga”).

Claims 14, 16, 22-24, and 27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-21, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Rhee. For at least the following reasons, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Independent claim 1 recites a system for reliably broadcasting a data packet under an ad-hoc network environment, comprising, *inter alia*, a comparing unit operable to compare a first relay node sequence number with a second relay node sequence number, the first relay node sequence number being contained in a management packet received by at least one node transmitting the data packet, the second relay node sequence number being stored in a neighbor table of the at least one node.

In rejecting independent claim 1, the Examiner appears to not be considering the claim as a whole, but instead is dividing the claim into portions, and treating each portion independently. For example, the Examiner cites paragraph 67 of Rhee in rejecting the claimed comparing unit. In paragraph 67, Rhee discloses a remote terminal comparing the distance fields of two confirmation packets. The Examiner then cites paragraph 9 of Rhee as teaching the claimed first relay node sequence number and second relay node sequence number. Paragraph 9 of Rhee discloses an identifier for a wireless network being sent in a communication (the alleged disclosure of the claimed first relay node sequence number) and an identifier for a terminal device or a node on the wireless network being sent in a communication (the alleged disclosure of the claimed second relay node sequence identifier). However, claim 1 recites that the comparing unit compares the first relay node sequence number with the second relay node sequence number. The cited identifiers of Rhee are not compared by Rhee's remote terminal (the alleged disclosure of the claimed comparing unit). Claim 1 further recites that the first relay node sequence number is contained in a management packet received by a node, and the second relay node sequence number is stored in the node. The distance fields compared by Rhee are both received by Rhee's remote terminal, and neither are not stored in a neighbor table of the remote terminal.

Thus, Rhee fails to disclose all the features of independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentable over Rhee.

Independent claims 6, 11, and 19 recite one or more features analogous to those discussed above with respect to independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that

these claims are patentable over Rhee for at least reasons analogous to those given above with respect to independent claim 1.

Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12, 13, 15-17, 20, 21, and 25 depend on independent claims 1, 6, 11, or 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable over Rhee at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claims 1, 6, 11, or 19.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 5, 10, 18, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhee in view of Madruga.

Claims 5, 10, 18, and 26 depend on independent claims 1, 6, 11, or 19.

Madruga fails to address the above-mentioned deficiencies of Rhee. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable over the applied references at least by virtue of their dependence on independent claims 1, 6, 11, or 19.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that dependent claims 14, 16, 22-24, and 27 recite allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claims.

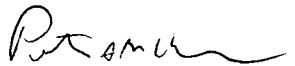
However, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to hold in abeyance such rewriting until the Examiner has had an opportunity to reconsider, and withdraw, the prior art rejections of the other claims.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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